
President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Teachers Immersed in Aerospace



Grant amount: \$362,710

Grantee: Florida Space Research Institute (FSRI)

Key partners: The Summer Industrial Fellowship for Teachers (SIFT), Inc., the Civil Air Patrol, the State of Florida, and Workforce Florida

Location of grant activities: Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Leveraged amount: \$162,398

Challenge:

This proposal addresses several challenges identified by aerospace industry stakeholders regarding the need to help build awareness of aerospace careers along the K-12 pipeline. One current problem concerns the fact that teachers need increased exposure and experience in the aerospace field. FSRI has submitted a \$362,710.50 proposal that will immerse technology teachers in real world manufacturing and technical projects within the industry, which will reinforce classroom content and enable a better understanding of aerospace skills and career opportunities.

Addressing the Challenge:

With its \$362,710.50 grant, FSRI will provide 25 teacher externships for technology teachers to improve hands-on knowledge and awareness of the skills required for aerospace careers. The project will be integrated into the existing SIFT project after the conclusion of this grant to ensure sustainability. FSRI will share its teacher externship, employer recruitment and mentoring models with other states and localities, making this initiative highly replicable.

Projected Outcome:

- Employers sponsoring teacher externships;
- Provide summer employment opportunities for 25 technology teachers per year in the aerospace industry;
- Provide follow-up classroom materials;
- Provide mentor follow-through with each of the participating teachers to gauge how the work experiences are being applied in the classroom; and
- Reach 2,500 technology students per year.

